department are giving contract of transformers to their relations due to which inferior transformers are being supplied. This should be inquired into that they made it of good quality. Govt. officers, the factories, are pilferaging the power at large scale. If it could be checked, the farmers may get regular power supply. I would like to say through you that Government should check the pilferaging of power so that power could be supplied regularly in the villages.

[English]

DR. B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government, particularly that of the Hom Minister, to the pending cases of Hyderabad, Telangana freedom fighters. For a long time thousands of cases have hot been cleared. These are the people who are genuine freedom fighters, who are responsible for the Independence of this country. But they are being neglected. Even the courts have given clearance and asked the Government to clear these cases. About two thousand cases are still pending and even though some of them are already sanctioned, still the Government is not paying them scholarship, pension, etc., which are supposed to be given to them.

I would therefore request you to direct the Government to immediately decide the cases of these freedom fighters and do the needful.

[Translation]

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Govt. towards the Delhi Airport Authority of India under which there is a workshop of construction and Development unit whose 150 officers and employees are waiting for promotion since last three years. Unfortunately, the Chairman of Delhi Airport Authority...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have given your notice about SAIL but you are talking about Airport Authority.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : This is same which I am talking...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are raising the matter of promotion of the officers. You should write a letter for that.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : This matter has to be raised because three years have passed. The Chairman and Director have withhold the promotion of the staff because his close one is not qualified.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter of promotion etc. can not be raised here. You should raised this matter by another mean...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : It is the not the matter of a particular State, District, and a village...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It's all right. You write a letter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Sadar-Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very important subject. The existance of the paper Mills in the public and private sector is in danger. Many mills have been closed and many others are on the verge of closure. The reason is the large scale import of newsprint. I am not against the import of newsprint. But if newsprint will be imported at cheaper rates. Our local paper mills will be ruined. During April 1996 to September 1996, 2.25 lakh tonne paper was imported and not only the newsprint was imported but on the pretext of this many other types or papers are also being imported, as a result of this the existance of our local paper mills is bleak. The Govt. should encourage those indigeneous mills by allowing concessions like excise duty etc. which have increased their production many times during the last two years so that they may provide the more and more newsprint in their country.

This relates to demand and supply . If newsprint is available in abandance in our country then why more and more foreign exchange is being wasted on the import to the newsprint. I would like to submit that even Germany and countries of European Community centre allow import according to their demand and supply.

So atlast, I am drawing the attention of the Government towards the two points. Whatever import of the newsprint is being made it should be only for the actual user. There was this policy in the country upto April 1995 that only actual user should be allowed to import. If newsprint is imported for the trading purpose, the condition of the paper mills will be worsened. There is too much news stock in paper mills today. The Public Undertakings like H.P.C., Tamilnadu or Mysore Paper mill, are also facing difficulties and there mills are on the verge of closure I want to bring to the notice of the Govt. these facts.

[English]

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the 16th December, there was a report in *The Indian Express* on the front page, which said that a senior officer of the Intelligence Bureau was asked to quit service, was asked to put in his papers. The reasons given for forcing him to put in his papers were that he was seen hobnobbing with the personnel of some other foreign Mission and that his *bona fides* as regards counter-intelligence were suspect.

The officer belongs to the 1964 batch of IPS and he is rated very high in the Government service. His name has been empanelled for being appointed as an

Additional Secretary in the Government of India or as a Director General of Police in the regular Police Department.

There have been two versions. His version has also been published in *The Indian Express*. He has stated that he has met those people after informing his bosses that he was going to do certain duties which were assigned to him. In spite of that, he has been directed to put in his papers and, accordingly, he has put in his papers.

Sir, there are two versions about this matter and this is a very sensitive matter affecting the security of the country. The officer concerned gave his version and we do not know what the official version is. Yesterday's *Times of India* carried an editorial saying that such matters should not be left to the discretion of an individual officer and that this matter requires a thorough probe. The editorial even suggested that there should be a committee comprising of a retired Director of the CBI, a retired Director of the Intelligence Bureau and a retired Secretary of the Research and Analysis Wing. These three persons should constitute a committee and they must probe deep into allegations or whatever information they have got. Then only, some action has to be taken against the officer.

Now, this officer has lost the job and he has been allegedly forced to quit the job. It is time the Government took note of the importance of the matter. Before they accept the papers of the officer, they must constitute a committee and probe into the matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not raise issues relating to any officer. These issues are not raised here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : I beg your pardon, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I said that such issues were not raised here.

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Sir, this is a matter concerning the security of the nation; this is not a matter concerning an individual.

MR. CHAIRMAN : An act of an officer of the Government or of Government agency is not discussed here.

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Sir, this might affect the intelligence part of the work.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Morena) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the farmers of Morena district of Madhya Pradesh are not getting adequate electricity supply. They are facing a lot of difficulty in agriculture. The farmers are called the 'Annadata' but when they are not getting electricity what will they produce and supply to the people. I urge the Government to provide electricity supply for 18 hours in a day to the farmers. Besides, there is no adequate arrangements of drinking water in the city also. Therefore, it is my earnest request to the Central Government to provide electricity and water in this area.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN (Khandwa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had also given a notice on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : The farmers of Madhya Pradesh are not getting adequate electricity supply and as a result thereof in about one lakh acres of land wheat and Gram crop is about to perish there. The farmers get power supply during the night and that too only for four-five hours. The farmers have to get up in the dead of the night in shivering cold to irrigate their fields. Lakhs of farmers of Madhya Pradesh are facing financial crisis as a result of power crisis in the State. There will be shortfall of Lakhs of quintals of wheat and Gram crops in future as a result of this. The plight of the farmers is miserable and this would further result in the collapse of the economy of the country. The Central Government should intervene in this matter and provide adequate power supply to the farmers of Madhya Pradesh.

14.00 hrs.

The Central Government should also make arrangements for additional power supply to Madhya Pradesh so that power could be made available for irrigation purpose.

[English]

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a highly sensitive issue agitating the minds of the people of Assam. The Ethnic clashes took place during May in Kokrajhar District of Assam. As a result about three lakh people have become destitutes and two hundred people have died. They have been accommodated in a large number of camps. Out of those who were accommodated in the refugee camps, only a few had returned to their homes.

Even now, one and a half lakh people are languishing in the refugee camps of Kokrajhar District. It requires about Rs. 17 lakh a day to feed these people. Already, the Government of Assam have spent about Rs. 20 crore. We find that the Central Government is totally callous and indifferent towards the plight of these 1,50,000 tribal people living in squalor and filth. Deaths are taking place daily due to paucity of medicines and proper food is not being provided.